

“(B) appeal an adverse action to the Merit Systems Protection Board under chapter 75 of title 5, United States Code,

“(C) appeal a prohibited personnel practice described under section 2302(b) of title 5, United States Code, to the Merit Systems Protection Board under chapter 77 of that title,

“(D) make an allegation of a prohibited personnel practice described under section 2302(b) of title 5, United States Code, with the Office of Special Counsel under chapter 12 of that title for action in accordance with that chapter, or

“(E) file an appeal with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under part 1614 of title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations,

shall continue to be entitled to file such appeal or make such an allegation so long as the individual remains an employee of the Tax Court.

“(9) **COMPETITIVE STATUS.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any employee of the Tax Court who has completed at least 1 year of continuous service under a non-temporary appointment with the Tax Court acquires a competitive status for appointment to any position in the competitive service for which the employee possesses the required qualifications.

“(10) **MERIT SYSTEM PRINCIPLES, PROHIBITED PERSONNEL PRACTICES, AND PREFERENCE ELIGIBLES.**—Any personnel management system of the Tax Court shall—

“(A) include the principles set forth in section 2301(b) of title 5, United States Code;

“(B) prohibit personnel practices prohibited under section 2302(b) of title 5, United States Code; and

“(C) in the case of any individual who would be a preference eligible in the executive branch, provide preference for that individual in a manner and to an extent consistent with preference accorded to preference eligibles in the executive branch.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date the United States Tax Court adopts a personnel management system after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The amendment (No. 4835) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to authorize the tax court to appoint employees.”.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill, as amended, to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 5901), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE VOLUNTEER IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2010

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 693, H.R. 4973.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4973) to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be

read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4973) was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

FRANK MELVILLE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING INVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 689, S. 1481.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1481) to amend section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act to improve the program under such section for supportive housing for persons with disabilities.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italics.)

S. 1481

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of [2009]2010”.

(b) **REFERENCES.**—Except as otherwise expressly provided, wherever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, section 811 or any other provision of section 811, the reference shall be considered to be made to section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013).

SEC. 2. TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH CERTIFICATE FUND.

[(a) **TERMINATION OF MAINSTREAM TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**—Section 811 is amended—

[(1) in subsection (b)—

[(A) by striking the subsection designation and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

[(“(b) **AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary is authorized to provide assistance to private nonprofit organizations to expand the supply of supportive housing for persons with disabilities, which shall be provided as—

[(“(1) capital advances in accordance with subsection (d)(1), and

[(“(2) contracts for project rental assistance in accordance with subsection (d)(2).”]; and

[(B) by striking “assistance under this paragraph” and inserting “Assistance under this subsection”;

[(2) in subsection (d), by striking paragraph (4); and

[(3) in subsection (l), by striking paragraph (1).

[(b) **RENEWAL THROUGH SECTION 8.**—Section 811 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

[(“(p) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR SECTION 8 ASSISTANCE.**—

[(“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—There is authorized to be appropriated for tenant-based rental assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) for persons with disabilities in fiscal year 2009 the amount necessary to provide a number of incremental vouchers under such section that is equal to the number of vouchers provided in fiscal year 2008 under the tenant-based rental assistance program under subsection (d)(4) of this section (as in effect before the date of the enactment of the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2009).

[(“(2) **REQUIREMENTS UPON TURNOVER.**—The Secretary shall develop and issue, to public housing agencies that receive voucher assistance made available under this subsection and to public housing agencies that received voucher assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) for non-elderly disabled families pursuant to appropriation Acts for fiscal years 1997 through 2002 or any other subsequent appropriations for incremental vouchers for non-elderly disabled families, guidance to ensure that, to the maximum extent possible, such vouchers continue to be provided upon turnover to qualified persons with disabilities or to qualified non-elderly disabled families, respectively.”.]

SEC. 2. TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) **RENEWAL THROUGH SECTION 8.**—Section 811(d)(4) is amended to read as follows:

[(“(4) **TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE.**—

[(“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Tenant-based rental assistance provided under subsection (b)(1) shall be provided under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)).

[(“(B) **CONVERSION OF EXISTING ASSISTANCE.**—There is authorized to be appropriated for tenant-based rental assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) for persons with disabilities an amount not less than the amount necessary to convert the number of authorized vouchers and funding under an annual contributions contract in effect on the date of enactment of the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2010. Such converted vouchers may be administered by the entity administering the vouchers prior to conversion. For purposes of administering such converted vouchers, such entities shall be considered a “public housing agency” authorized to engage in the operation of tenant-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 .

[(“(C) **REQUIREMENTS UPON TURNOVER.**—The Secretary shall develop and issue, to public housing agencies that receive voucher assistance made available under this subsection and to public housing agencies that received voucher assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) for non-elderly disabled families pursuant to appropriation Acts for fiscal years 1997 through 2002 or any other subsequent appropriations for incremental vouchers for non-elderly disabled families, guidance to ensure that, to the maximum extent possible, such vouchers continue to be provided upon turnover to qualified persons with disabilities or to qualified non-elderly disabled families, respectively.”.]

(b) **PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary is authorized to the extent amounts are made available in future appropriations Acts, to provide technical assistance to public housing agencies and other administering entities to facilitate using vouchers to provide permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities, help States reduce reliance on segregated restrictive settings for people with disabilities to meet community care requirements, end chronic homelessness, as “chronically homeless” is defined in section 401 of the